

LICHEN FLORA OF THE UNITED STATES.¹ The publication of this long awaited book should fill a serious gap in the botanical literature of the United States. Not since the time of Tuckerman has a work of this scope been attempted, and for the first time adequate keys are provided to the lichen flora of the entire area. The volume was started by Professor Fink along the same lines as his earlier publication, *The Lichens of Minnesota*,² and was completed after his death in 1927 by his assistant, Mrs. Joyce Hedrick Jones. Many of the plates are taken from the previous work as is also the introduction which has, however, been brought up to date. In all, 178 genera and 1578 species, varieties, and forms are represented. In the description of species only the diagnostic characters are given, thus eliminating a great deal of the needless repetition of generic characteristics found in the *Lichens of Minnesota*. More space could profitably have been spent on the ranges of species, and some of the ranges stated are open to question as, for example, that of the almost ubiquitous *Evernia prunastri* which is said to occur "from Washington to California." However, even the brief ranges given show very emphatically how much collecting needs to be done before any real knowledge of the distribution of the various species can be arrived at. No mention is made of the distribution of species outside of the United States. The nomenclature follows that of Zahlbruckner with minor changes. Fink's species-concept was much more conservative than that of many lichen investigators and his condensation of *Cladonia* into only 65 species and a few varieties and forms is a most refreshing shelter from the torrential shower of names which threatens to engulf the beginner in this most perplexing genus. The excellence and the modest price of this work should bring numerous new students into the field of lichens and cause a revival of interest in this neglected group.—S. K. HARRIS.

VICTORIN'S FLORE LAURENTIENNE.—It is a most noteworthy event when a country which has never had available proper texts on its own flora, except as prepared "over the line," should in a short space of time have two books by its own sons. The little *Flore-Manuel de la Province de Quebec* by Father Louis-Marie was noted in RHODORA, xxxiv. 19, 20 (1932). Now we heartily welcome the much more extended book³ on the same area by the senior taxonomist of French Canada. This volume, a sumptuous quarto, is not merely a flora. Its preliminary sections give a very clear physiographic account of the Province of Quebec (in its full extent including much of the Labrador Peninsula) and detailed accounts of the Région Laurentine, or the terrain drained by the St. Lawrence. Even this area, less than one-third of the Province, is a vast one, and the botanically more interesting eastern half of it (the Gaspé Peninsula, Anticosti, the Côte Nord, the Mingan Islands and the Magdalen Islands) is unfortunately omitted, except in the general phytogeographic discussions—unfortunately, since this area is not already covered by any manual.

¹ BRUCE FINK. *The Lichen Flora of the United States*. 426 + v pp. 47 plates. University of Michigan Press, Ann Arbor, Michigan. 1935.

² Cont. U. S. Nat. Herb. xiv, pt. 1. 1910.

³ FRÈRE MARIE-VICTORIN: *Flore Laurentienne*, illustrée de 22 cartes et de 2800 dessins par FRÈRE ALEXANDRE: 917 pp. Cloth, \$5.00; half-leather, \$6.50; half-shagreen, with corners and cords, \$7.50; postage, .50. De La Salle Press, 949 Côté Street, Montreal, Quebec.